Melvin Brown, Jr. You Boys Farm 325 Browntown Rd. Sumter, SC 29153

Ms. Whitney Rick Chief, Research & Promotion Staff Cotton Program, Ag Marketing Service, Stop 0224 1400 Independence Ave. - Room 2641 South Building Washington, DC 20250-0224

Dear Ms. Rick, June 15, 2001

As a cotton farmer in SC I write to inform you that we do not need or support a referendum on the Cotton Research and Promotion Act Amendment of 1990.

This Cotton Research and Promotion Act is funded by cotton farmers and handled by the Cotton Board and Cotton Incorporated.

Even though we are experiencing bad low prices, all cotton farmers in the U.S. would have been in serious trouble many years ago without the Research and Promotion by Cotton Incorporated. All Americans, all cotton farmers, importers, and all cotton customers benefit from this program, and we sincerely ask the USDA to continue this program to help keep us in business. We do not need a referendum. We need Research and Promotion!

JUN 2 1 2001

Sincerely yours,